

Fort Des Moines Historic Complex,
Building 152
(Mounted Guard Shelter)
Des Moines
Polk County
Iowa

HABS No. IA-121-EE

HABS
IOWA,
77-DESMO,
24-EE-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Rocky Mountain Regional Office
Department of the Interior
P.O. Box 25287
Denver, Colorado 80225

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Building No. 152. Mounted Guard Station

Building No. 152 stands in a north-south alignment off the southeast corner of the parade, east of Chaffee Street and not far from Wood Circle. Completed on April 10, 1908, the structure cost \$2,160.00. Its wall is one of brick joined in common bond with lime mortar, its gabled roof of slate, and its stemwall foundation has cement stucco parging along the base. On the west side stands a single door, one double hung window, and two single sash windows. On the east side are two double hung windows, four single sash 3-over-3-light sliding windows, and a chimney that protrudes through the eave of the roof. The chimney brick is joined in running bond with red-pigmented mortar. At the north end is one double hung window and, directly above, one single sash window. At the south end is a single door with a single sash window located beneath the gable. All door and window openings have segmental arches and the windows have limestone lug sills. Two ventilators stand on the ridge of the roof, which has shaped rafter tails placed 16 inches apart. At the north end of the building is a concrete receptacle measuring 8 feet square. Its purpose is unknown.

Interior floor space comprises 800 square feet, and the building could hold four horses. Flooring in the south half consists of a brick driveway and gutters and dirt for the stalls. That in the north half is of hardwood covered with linoleum. There are two rooms, each 20 feet by 20 feet. In its construction, a number of 6" x 6" columns stand in line every 5 or 6 feet along the center of the building in its south half. The column line is in alignment with the ridge, and there is a braced frame using 2" x 10" beams. The structure has electric lighting and water and sewer line connections. Repairs between 1908 and 1921 were minimal and averaged only \$10.81 per year.⁽⁴⁵⁾ In more recent years a fibreboard partition and ceiling were installed. In 1987 the shelter was vacant and was in good condition.

45. Card for Building No. 152. "Historical Record of Buildings." NA, RG 77, Box No. 51; Field survey notes, February 20-22, 1987.